

The Daily Gazetteer:

SATURDAY, JULY 10 1736.

N^o 324.

Extract of a Treatise, entitled, The Taxes and Tributes of the Roman People. By Petrus Burmannus. Printed at Leiden 1734.



E read of three Principal Taxes or Tributes that were in Use in the earliest Times of the Roman Republick. These were levied either on the Lands that were ploughed or sown, or on the Pasture Grounds, or else on the Havens; that is, on Ships entered out and in. They

were filed by the Romans, *Decuma*, *Scriptura*, and *Portorium*. Some of the Lands were conquer'd from the Enemy, and made, as it were, a Patrimony of the Roman People. Others were taken from the Nations under their Government, and distributed either among the Soldiery, or else among the necessitous Multitude; from whence we may derive the Origin of Colonies or Plantations. Others were left in Possession of the conquer'd Nations, to be cultivated, on condition of paying a yearly Tribute to Rome.

As for Mines and Quarries, it seems that the Roman Republick left them in Possession of the conquer'd Provinces, reserving only an annual Tribute. But in process of Time, the Emperors assumed to themselves the Property of the Mines; tho' they sometimes let them out to private Persons.

ANOTHER Tax was laid on the Salt-Works. This Tax was introduced by *M. Livius* and *C. Claudius*; the first of which, for that Reason, was nick-named *Salinator*. We find a remarkable Passage in the first Book of the *Maccabees*, Chap. x. v. 29. relating to the Salt-Tax, which the Jews paid to the Kings of Syria, and which was taken off by King *Demetrius*. Divers Observations of Mr. *Burmannus*, confute the Assertion of the famous Lawyer *Hottomannus*, who maintains that no Salt-Tax was levied by the Romans on their foreign Provinces.

THE Farmers of the Revenues, called by the Romans *Publicani*, were no mean or contemptible People, but were generally Roman Knights. For which Reason *Cicero*, in his Oration for *Plancius*, calls them the Flower of the Roman Knights, the Ornament of the City, and the Support of the State. Accordingly, by *Publicani*, or Farmers of the Revenues, is often meant the whole Order of the Roman Knights; most of that Order being *Publicani*. But as the Farming of the Taxes or Imposts on Cities, Lands and Kingdoms, was no trifling Affair; but brought in great Sums every Year into the Roman Treasury: A single Person, how Wealthy soever, was judged not to be qualified for it; but it was granted to a whole Society or Body of Men. For which reason, in many Places of *Cicero* and other Authors, by *Socii* and *Societas*, the whole Body of the Farmers or Publicans is to be understood. Which Observation has escaped some of the Learned.

BUT under the Emperors, we find that People of an inferior Rank have composed such a Society. And it is observable, that of whatever Rank or Order those Publicans were, they were never succeeded in their Employment by their Children or Heirs.

THE Society of Publicans consisted likewise of Persons of a different Denomination. He who at the Time of the publick Farming out of the Revenues, spoke in behalf of the rest, by bidding for the Office, and holding up his Right-hand, was call'd *Manceps*. He was the Chief of that Society, or Company, and was stiled *Princeps Publicanorum*. Others were called *Magistri Societatis*; and they had the Care and Inspection of the Affairs of the Company at Rome. Such a *Magister* sent some-body in his Name to the several Provinces that were tributary to the Romans, to act for him. What such a Substitute, or Deputy did, he was said to do *pro Magistro*, or for his Matter. *Zacharias* seems to have been one of these Deputies, who, Luke xix. 2. is call'd a Chief of the Publicans. But the *Manceps*, or Chief of the Company, was oblig'd to give Security for the Payment of the Money that was levied, by getting Persons to be bound for him, which Persons were call'd *Prædes*. There were

likewise Roman Knights, who were not concern'd either in the Farming, or in the Security that was given, but only furnish'd Money to the *Manceps*, or Chiefs of the Company. Such an one was the celebrated *Titus Pomponius Atticus*, whose Life was written by *Corn. Nepos*.

IT has been already observ'd, that those Members of the Company who had the Direction of the Company's Affairs at Rome, had their Substitutes in the several Provinces. But these had likewise their Substitutes, or Inferior Officers, who collected the Imposts in the Cities and Towns. And these were the *Publicani*, of whom such an odious Character is given in the Gospel History.

THE Farmers of the Revenues were so considerable at Rome, that whatever had an Affair of Consequence, thought himself happy in gaining them over to his Side. *Cicero* frequently values himself on his Interest among them, and advises his Friends to make Use of the same Advantage. 'Tis likewise observable, that the Company of Farmers was incorporated only for the Term of twenty five Years; which being expired, the Farm was renew'd. However, in the Times of the Emperors, this Custom was so far alter'd, that when it appear'd that the Farmers had enrich'd themselves, they were oblig'd to continue in Office, tho' never so unwilling, in case Times changed for the worse. This was even ordain'd by a Law, which was not repeal'd till the Time of the Emperor *Adrian*. But the Emperor *Constantine* decreed, that the Company of Farmers should continue for the Term of three Years only.

THE different Revenues that were farm'd, gave different Denominations to the Farmers. Those who farm'd the Revenue arising from Arable Lands, were call'd *Decumani*. Such who were concern'd in Pasture-Grounds, were stiled *Pecuarii* and *Scripturarii*, from the Account they took of the Cattle. But the Farmers of the Customs or Duties, with regard to Goods exported or imported, were call'd *Portitores*.

As for the Farmers of the Mines and Quarries, we cannot find they had any other Name but the general one of *Publicani*.

IN the Times of the later Emperors, Corn and Cattle were no more lett to farm, and in the Histories of their Times the Appellations of *Decumani* or *Scripturarii* seldom or never occur. The Care of other Farms was likewise committed to certain Magistrates, who sent their Officers into the Tributary Provinces to receive Grain, Cattle, Wine, Oil, &c. and who were call'd by one general Name *Supectores*. And to the End they might not defraud the Publick, other Officers were added to them, call'd *Annotatores*, or *Tabularii*. But as it was impossible to deliver the same Measure at Rome, which they had receiv'd in remote Provinces, a certain Overplus was allow'd them under the Name of *Epimetrum*: But some Provinces however were free from this.

Dublin, July 3. On Tuesday last a Man who kept a Tent in Dunboyne at the Fair, desir'd some Fellows, who were Quarrelling before his Tent Door, to go farther off, and not to stop up the Passage into the Tent; as he was speaking, a Fellow with a great Club came behind him and knocked him down, and killed him with that single Blow.

Early on Wednesday Morning, as four Trumpeters were drinking in Castle-street, some Words happen'd between 'em, whereupon one of them drew and stabb'd the other in the Breast, of which Wound he died instantly. His Name was Allen, and belonged to Lieutenant-General Naper's Horse.

The same Evening was decently interred at St. Patrick's Church, Thomas Pearson, Esq; Member of Parliament for the Borough of Ballyshannon, in the County of Donnegal, and Collector of Drogheda.

Yesterday William Taylor, Esq; was made Collector of Limerick: And the Hon. Capt. O'Brian, made Collector of Drogheda in Mr. Pearson's room.

Sir Marmaduke Wyvill, our new Post-Master, is expected here To-morrow from England.

Early on Thursday Morning, a Drummer and a Grenadier quarrell'd in Castle-street; the Drummer

cut the Grenadier's Head most cruelly, and the Grenadier return'd the like Favour, and cut off three of the Drummer's Fingers, thereby disabled him, which put an End to that Fray.

Thursday being the Anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne, in the Year 1690, the same was most solemnly observed in this City, several Persons having their Doors and Windows ornamented with Flowers and Orange Lillies interspersed, and by ringing of Bells, firing of Guns, Bonfires and other Illuminations, and with all the Demonstrations of an universal Joy, among the Protestants. A Club of odds of an hundred Persons, who call themselves *The Protestant Society of Truck-street*, were very remarkable; for they had an excellent Sermon preached at St. Catharine's Church by the Rev. Mr. Nesbit, and a particular Hymn of Thanksgiving compos'd suitable to the Day, and a large blue Flag, with King William on Horseback in the Middle of it, and four blue Streamers, carried before them to Church. The Flag was afterwards erected on the Spire, and the Streamers on the Pinnacles of the Church. They all wore Orange-coloured Cockades. After Sermon they all went to Mr. Dalton's, at the Weaver's Arms in Truck-street, where they had an elegant Dinner, after which they drank the Healths of their Majesties, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke, and all the Royal Family, and to the Immortal Memory of King William III. our great and glorious Deliverer.

York, July 5. Last Tuesday was launched at Selby, the Resolution, a Ship of 440 Tons. There was a vast Concourse of People upon the Banks of the River, who were highly pleas'd with seeing her go off so well. Mr. Leng was the Master Builder, who has gain'd no small Credit in these Parts for his extraordinary Skill in Ship-building. A Holland's Trader, about 60 Tons, was launch'd there the Day before; and four more Ships are now upon the Stocks, under the Direction of the same Builder. Mr. Bowes is the Master of the Resolution, who gave an elegant Entertainment to all the Gentlemen and Ladies in the Neighbourhood. — In the Evening there was a Ball.

Friday John Moore, a Barber, undertook to walk 40 Miles in 10 Hours, on Knave'smire, near this City, for a Wager of 40s. which he performed in 8 Hours and 3 Quarters. Some of the Spectators, well pleas'd with his great Performance, made a Contribution for him.

Within these few Days past, several Persons of Quality pass'd through this City for the Scarborough Spaw; amongst which was the Duke and Dutches of Cleveland, the Earl of Grantham, the Lady Betty Wentworth, &c.

Stamford, July 7. We have had such continued Rains, that the like has not been known in the Memory of Man; and the Curious have observ'd by their Refectories, that in three Days there fell so much Wet, as measured 8 Inches and one Quarter, whereas the Refectory seldom or never contains more than 24 Inches of Water by the Rains that fall in the Compass of a whole Year.

Last Week at the Races at Uppingham in the County of Rutland, the 40l. Plate was won by Mr. Marshall's Horse, Dunkirk. The 20l. by Lord Weymouth's Horse, Whittington. And the 10l. by Mr. Bopchritt's Mare, Miss Slouch.

On Sunday last was interred at Grantham, the Rev. Mr. Harrison, who was Minister of that Place many Years; he was an excellent Preacher, and his Death is greatly lamented.

L O N D O N.

Yesterday a Mail arriv'd from Flanders, by which we learn, that a Courier from Warsaw is gone thro' Dresden for Hanover, with Advice, that the Dyet was open'd at Warsaw, according to Custom, by a solemn Service, which was celebrated in the Great Church, in Presence of the King, the Ecclesiastical and Temporal Senators, the Grandees and Deputies; after which his Majesty, accompanied by the Primate and the Counsellors of the Kingdom, repaired to the Hall of Senators, which was prepared for the Purpose, and where every one sat according to his Rank, together with the Deputies, preceded by the late Marshal Count Poninsky. The Primate rose up immediately, and made a fine Speech to the whole Assembly, exhorting every one to think of the Publick Good, according to what they had

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had sworn by the Gospels, and to abandon all manner of Strife. The Marshal did the same Thing in the Chamber of the Deputies, and said, that before the least Thing was undertaken, they ought to proceed to the Election of a new Marshal of the Dyet. After this the Primate sent the Agent of the Dyet to invite all the Foreign Ministers to his House, to whom he declar'd, by Word of Mouth, that it was the Desire of the King and Senate, that during the Dyet they would take Care to be at hand, to the End that if any Affairs came upon the Tapis concerning the Interests of the Princes their Masters, they might be able to let them know it. 'Twas observ'd, that at this Conversation, the Ambassadors of the Emperor and the Czarina stay'd behind, after the others took their Leave, and talk'd above an Hour longer with the Primate, in presence of Count Poninsky.

Last Thursday the Right Hon. the Lord George Bentinck, Brother to his Grace the Duke of Portland, arriv'd from his Travels; and Yesterday he waited on her Majesty at Kensington, and met with a most gracious Reception.

On Wednesday last died at Hampton in the County of Middlesex, Thomas Boyle, of Eye in the County of Suffolk, Esq;

Last Monday — Duncombe, of Renfrew in Scotland, Esq; was married at Queenborough in Kent, to Miss Emmerfon, a young Gentlewoman with a Fortune of 7000 l.

Yesterday their Graces the Duke and Dutches of Richmond set out from their House in the Privy Garden at Whitehall, for Tunbridge Wells.

Last Thursday se'nnight the Reverend Mr. David Morgan, M. A. was Inducted into the Rectory of Bodvarry in the County of Flint and Diocese of St. Asaph, to which he was lately presented by the Right Hon. the Lord Chancellor.

On Wednesday last died at his Seat near St. Edmond's-Bury, in the County of Suffolk, Micajah Pantton, Esq; said to have died worth 2000 l. per Annum.

His Majesty has been pleas'd to appoint Sir Multon Lambert, Kt. to be Governor of Tilbury Fort Block-house, and the Town of Gravesend, in the room of General Tatton, deceased.

Last Monday William Frazier, of Durham, Esq; was married at Tooting in Surry to Miss Smallwood, Daughter of the late — Frazier of Pall-mall, Esq; deceased.

The Barons of the Court of Exchequer have lately made a Rule, that no Smugler, confined in any Gaol in City or Country, shall be discharged, pursuant to the late Act, without giving their Names in Writing, at least six Days before they claim the Benefit of the said Act, to the Attorney or Solicitor-General.

Yesterday Thomas Percifull and Thomas Adams, both Victuallers at Chelsea, were convicted before Colonel De Veil, the one of buying, and the other of exchanging some Regimental Furniture belonging to his Majesty, knowing it to be so, from a private Centinel in his Majesty's First Regiment of Foot-Guards, who is since deferted from the Company he belonged to, commanded by Colonel Pearson; and they each of them paid five Pounds, the Penalty inflicted by Act of Parliament.

Yesterday Bank Stock was 150. India 177. South Sea 100. Old Annuity 113 5-8ths. New ditto, 113. Three per Cent. 105. Emperor's Loan 119. Royal Assurance 110 1 half to 3-4ths. London Assurance 14 1-half to 5-8ths. York Buildings 2. African 14 1-half. India Bonds 61. 18s. to 19s. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 51. 14s. Premium. South Sea Bonds 51. 18s. Premium. New Bank Circulation 71. 7s. 6d. Premium. Salt Tallies 3 3-4ths to 6 Prem. English Copper 21. 3s. Welsh ditto, no Price. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 6 3 8ths per Cent. Prem. Million Bank 115.

THE Managers and Directors of the Lottery appointed by an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament, for building a Bridge across the River Thames from the New Palace Yard in the City of Westminster, to the opposite Shore in the County of Surry, do hereby give Notice, that they have, pursuant to the Directions of the said Act, appointed the Payments of the Contributors to the said Lottery to be made into the Bank of England, in the Proportions, and at the Times following, viz. Twenty Shillings on each Ticket to be paid at the Time of subscribing, for which Purpose Books are now open and will continue so to the 2d of next August, unless the Subscription be completed before that Time; Forty Shillings more to be paid on each Ticket on or before the 10th of September next, and the remaining Forty Shillings on or before the 1st of November following.

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